

Community Survey

59 people attended public meeting on 3/24 where responses were collected. (54 resident of which 8 were parents of students, 5 (non-residents)

6 people completed paper copies of the survey. (5 residents of which 1 was parent of a student, 1 non-resident)

11 people completed on-line copies of the survey (10 residents of which 2 were parents of a student, 1 non-resident)

Numbers in () after a comment indicates number of people who agreed or had the same question.

1. What would you like to see happen to the Walker School?

- Recreation Center (possibly includes-Fitness center, Dance, Yoga, Basketball, Playground, artist spaces) (4)
- Community Center (possibly include- Community garden, Performance space, Kitchen workshop, Co-op workshop, Wi-Fi hotspot, senior center, Adult Ed. Town offices, library) (11)
- Liberty School (5)
- Liberty and Montville school
- Rental spaces (5)
- Affordable housing (senior housing) (4)
- Home school
- Laundromat
- Food pantry
- Emergency warning center (1)
- Ecology Learning Center
- Soup kitchen
- Head Start/ pre-school
- Commercial kitchen
- Restoration/preservation
- Sell it (to Liberty Graphics, for a Farmers Market and Art Studio, another clean business) (5)
- Demolish

2. What additional information do you need in order to make an informed decision about whether or not to accept the Walker School building?

- What is condition of septic system/ boiler?
- Is there mold?
- Is the lead in pipes?

- Is there asbestos in ceiling tiles, pipe wrap, floor tile, insulation?
- How will taxes be affected? (3)
- Per fire marshall, what is required for change of use plans for building. (2)
- What are examples of other school redevelopment projects?
- ADA
- Who will take responsibility of oversight of the building ? (4)
- Will the district sell the building if we don't accept it?
- Operating costs (9)
- Costs to renovate (5)
- Current estimated value of the building
- Liability
- Structural issues
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3. Should Liberty remain part of RSU 3?

yes- 15

no- 25

I don't know yet- 15

4. Please elaborate: how do you see Liberty engaging with the school district to build a stronger relationship? If no, what options should the town explore for educating Liberty students?

Yes:

- RSU #3 is responsible to develop relationship
- Liberty has input related to quality of education
- Work together to lobby the state
- How will district improve their ability to hire and keep teachers?
- Engage with homeschool community.
- Open minded representative
- Widely disseminate board agendas to raise awareness of how tax dollars are being spent-papercopies available in many locations around town.

No:

- Consider Special education/prioritize
- School choice (Could it include RSU #3?) (8)
- All elementary students to one school and school choice for H.S.
- Engage with homeschool community.
- Research costs and transportation (5)
- Which option would attract families to Liberty
- Join another district/community, be sure it offers benefits to our students (3)

- Talk with Montville
 - Investigate closer districts like Palermo and learn about their challenges at the beginning,
 - Start our own school (length of school day)
 - Quality education program.
 - School voucher system
5. What do you need to know in order to make future decisions about the education of Liberty students?
- TBD
 - Public education of highest quality
 - Religious school
 - School choice options (for both H.S. and elementary)
 - Costs (4)
 - Hybrid options
 - Pre K- Headstart - Can it be at Walker
 - Capacity and willingness of other schools to accept and travel distances and costs (per pupil?)
 - Can schools deny a student (given school choice)
 - Can students continue at Mt. View if they want to.
 - Who provides transportation/ how?
 - Home school co-op for lower grades
 - Extracurricular town could support (2)
 - Who hires teachers if we pull out?
 - Work with Montville re: resources/students